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Fact Sheet

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FACT SHEET: UNMANNED GROUND COMBAT VEHICLE PHASE II

The joint Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)/Army Unmanned Ground Combat Vehicle program progressed to its second phase on July 1, with the selection of the final two contractors, Team Retarius and Team Spinner.

Each team received an award of \$5.5 million for an 18-month effort to build a prototype vehicle and conduct tests. The test program is structured to incrementally demonstrate both mobility performance by overcoming a variety of obstacles in various soil types and endurance. Increased endurance and efficient operation will reduce the military's logistical load and expand tactical opportunities for unmanned ground vehicles. Additional testing will concentrate on air deployability, resilience to terrain-induced damage, and operation with various component failures. The performance in these experiments will provide critical guidance to the Army's Future Combat Systems program to improve the understanding of the roles for unmanned ground combat vehicles and assist in technology selection. The teams are each designing a different class of vehicle.

Team Retarius, led by Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, Dallas, Texas, with major contributions by Rod Millen Special Vehicles, Sandia National Laboratories, BAE Systems, and MSE High Performance Materials Group will build a $\frac{3}{4}$ -ton vehicle capable of carrying over 150 kilograms of payload and using 360-degree rotating suspension arms to support six electric wheel motor drive systems.

Team Spinner, lead by Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Penn., with major contributions from Timoney Engineering, Boeing, and PEI will build an approximately six-ton vehicle capable of carrying over 1500 kilograms of payload with robust and invertible hull and suspension systems.

The Unmanned Ground Combat Vehicle program has had two previous phases. In phase IA, which started in February 2001, DARPA and the Army supported eight contractors. Phase IB began in November 2001, with a downselect to four contractors. For news releases listing the previous contractors see www.darpa.mil/body/NewsItems/wordfiles/UGCVcontractors.doc (phase IA) and www.darpa.mil/body/NewsItems/wordfiles/ugevIB.doc (phase IB).

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